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INFORMATION REPORT

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

The following comments on current trends in the Communist Party of El Salvador were made in early March to source by a Party member.

1. The Communist Party of El Salvador has reached a decisive stage in its development where its clandestine operations must become subordinate to its overt efforts to organize labor. This organizational work must be accomplished in such a manner that labor will be the key factor in politics, thereby enabling the Communists to attain uncontested political leadership of the country.
2. The majority of Party members feel that the Party must take a more positive stand in organizing the working class along political and worker-syndicate lines. To this end, more effective propaganda, which will emphasize the political advantages to be gained through concerted action, is recommended.
3. If the Party is to move inexorably toward an armed struggle and eventual control of the government, the first step is to prepare Party elements for the effective direction of the government. As now constituted, the Party is numerically weak and lacks elements with sufficient ability to assure control of the government. Party experience in Guatemala is pointed to as an example. There, when the Communists found themselves in a strong position, they did not have the experience or ability to take advantage of the situation. However, through subsequent efforts they now exercise a considerable influence in their own country as well as in other Central American countries.
4. Although the Communist Party of El Salvador is not a legally recognized political organization, it will be able to capitalize on any success the Partido Accion Renovadora (PAR) may achieve in the presidential campaign, since the Communist Party controls the Partido Autentico Democratico (PAD) and leftist student groups which in turn have strong elements in the PAR. Although the Party does not hold in high esteem the leadership of the PAR, by assisting it the Party hopes to benefit in the event of an Osorio victory from any election deals or political favors which the Osorio government might offer the PAR as its only organized opposition.

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5. Although Major Humberto P. Villalta, PAD presidential candidate, is not a member of the Communist Party, he recognizes the necessity of soliciting Communist support through labor groups dominated by the Communists in order to further his political career.

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